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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,064	10/28/2003	Neal R. Cutler	CUTLER-07776	5953

7590 06/07/2005

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EXAMINER

KIM, JENNIFER M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1617

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/695,064

Applicant(s)

CUTLER, NEAL R.

Examiner

Jennifer Kim

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 March 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/24/04.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

8.0-0

DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed March 9, 2005 have been received and entered into the application.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 9-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babul (US 2004/0209850A1) in view of Wehling et al. (US 5178878) of record and further in view of Portenoy et al. (Pain, 41(1990)) of record.

Babul teaches the method of treating pain including breakthrough pain and cancer pain composition comprising one or more analgesic selected from group consisting of opioids including propoxyphene, and tramadol and one or more beta-adrenergic agonist. (claims 1-29, abstract, [0122]). Babul teaches the composition can be formulated as a sublingual tablet or buccal tablet employing calcium carbonate (effervescent disintegration agent). ([0146], [0147], claim 25).

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Babul does not expressly illustrate an example comprising a rapid dissolving sublingual formulation of tramadol and propoxyphene and disintegration of the formulation upon contact with the saliva set forth in claim 12.

Wehling et al. teach the effervescent disintegration tablet comprising effervescent disintegration agent (e.g. calcium carbonate) formulated as a rapid dissolution of the tablet providing a distinct effervescent sensation in the mouth, which stimulates salivation and thus further promotes the disintegration process. (column 2, lines 22-25, column 3, line 59- column 4, line 4, column 5, lines 50-56, column 6, lines 12-17).

Portenoy et al. teach that opioids as an analgesic regimen is an approach to the management of breakthrough pain in cancer. (page 279 under an approach to the management of breakthrough pain).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to treat a subject experiencing breakthrough pain due to cancer by utilizing Babul's composition comprising propoxyphene and tramadol formulated with rapid dissolution tablet providing distinct effervescent promoting the disintegration process upon contact with saliva because Babul teaches the composition comprising propoxyphene and tramadol formulated as a sublingual tablet with a effervescent disintegration agent is useful for the treatment of breakthrough cancer pain and because Wehling et al. teach that effervescent disintegration agents can be formulated as a rapid dissolution tablet promotes disintegration process in the mouth by the salivation. One would have been motivated to treat breakthrough pain with the composition taught by Babul as modified

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by Wehling et al. in order to achieve the beneficial effect of opioids analgesic regimen well known by Portenoy et al for the management of breakthrough cancer pain.

It is suggested that Applicants submit a declaration to clearly establish a surprising and unexpected result using Applicants teaching.

For these reasons the claimed subject matter is deemed to fail to patentably distinguish over the state of the art as represented by the cited references. The claims are therefore properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

None of the claims are allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

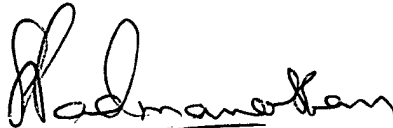
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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-0628. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 6:30 am to 3 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreenivasan Padmanabhan can be reached on 571-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Sreenivasan Padmanabhan
Supervisory Examiner
Art Unit 1617

Jmk
June 1, 2005